



11

Docket No.: 1609.1001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Copy

In re the Application of:

Hitoshi IWASAKA et al.

Serial No. 09/930,159

Group Art Unit: 3749

Confirmation No. 1497

Filed: August 16, 2001

Examiner: RINEHART, KENNETH

For: NON-CONTACTING CONVEYANCE EQUIPMENT

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED

JUN 23 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed March 11, 2003, and having a period for response set to expire on June 11, 2003.

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please REPLACE claims 4, 25 and 27 in accordance with the following:

4. (ONCE AMENDED) Non-contacting conveyance equipment according to claim 3, wherein a plurality of spouts face the inside of the concave opening such that the plurality of spouts together cause the swirl of fluid within the concave opening.

25. (ONCE AMENDED) Non-contacting conveyance equipment comprising:
a concave opening having a continuous walled inner peripheral surface;
an end face that opposes an object to be conveyed, the end face being formed in the concave opening; and

a fluid passageway comprising a spout facing the inside of the concave opening, the fluid passageway ending at an opening through the inner peripheral surface, to supply fluid to



Docket No.: 1609.1001

3749
\$
#10

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Hitoshi IWASAKA et al.

Serial No. 09/930,159

Group Art Unit: 3749

Confirmation No. 1497

Filed: August 16, 2001

Examiner: RINEHART, KENNETH

For: NON-CONTACTING CONVEYANCE EQUIPMENT

REQUEST FOR SUSPENSION OF ACTION

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

JUN 23 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

Applicants hereby request suspension of action on the above-identified application under 37 C.F.R. § 103(c) for a period of three months. Applicants hereby authorize the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) to be charged to Staas & Halsey LLP Deposit Account No. 19-3935. This Request is being filed together with a Request for Continued Examination. If there are any questions regarding this Request, such questions can be addressed by telephone to the undersigned.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Request, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: June 16 2003

By: Mark J. Henry
Mark J. Henry
Registration No. 36,162

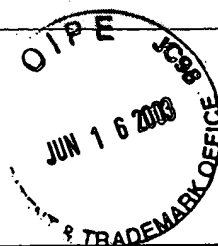
700 Eleventh Street, NW, Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 434-1500

06/18/2003 AWONDAF1 00000011 193935 09930159

01 FC:1460 130.00 DA

Please Date Stamp and return

RCE Transmittal; Amendment; and CK for \$750.00



APPLICANT(S): Hitoshi IWASAKA et al.

SERIAL NO: 09/930,159

CONFIRMATION NO. 1497

TITLE: NON-CONTACTING CONVEYANCE EQUIPMENT

FILING DATE: August 16, 2001

DOCKET NO: 1609.1001/MJH:mf

DUE DATE: June 11, 2003

COPY

RECEIVED

JUN 23 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700



35